



Office of Family Engagement

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE'22

## BUILDING BETTER TOGETHER

Family Partnerships to Build Stronger Futures

Saturday, November 12, 2022  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

D.M. Therrell High School  
3099 Panther Trail, Atlanta 30331

Hosted by the Office of Family Engagement for Atlanta Public Schools. Spanish interpretation is available for the event.

For more information please contact:  
familyengagement@atlanta.k12.ga.us



REGISTER NOW

at

<https://tinyurl.com/APSFECON>  
or scan the QR code

### CONFERENCE SESSIONS AND PRESENTERS

#### Everyone is "SMART"

Dr. Marcia Simmons  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### Budget for Life™

Michelle Ramirez  
Buckhead Christian Ministries

#### Family Readiness: Lessons for College, Career and Life Success

Dr. Anna Green Jones  
Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta

#### #RACE2READ: Building A City That Reads

Jennifer Saunders  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### Pac Man Series 2.0: Empowering Father's to Be Their Very Best

Dr. Tim Jones, Shannon Williams and Larry Guilford  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### Know Your Rights

Attorney Ayanna Jones-Lightsy  
Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF)

#### E.S.P. – Excellence in Single Parenting: Building Your Village

Chris Estes, Bea White, and Simone McGregor  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### The Steady Path to Student Wellness–Telehealth for Physical and Mental Health Support

Dr. Shannon Hervey and Dr. Valencia Hildreth  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### The Cornerstone of Special Education

Edith Abakare  
Atlanta Public Schools

#### We've Got You Covered–Transitional Services for Youth and Adults with Disabilities

Lillian Gibson  
Jewish Family and Career Services of Atlanta

#### Transformation Happens at the Women's Academy

Najima Calhoun, April Fresh, and Tiffany Frances  
Wellspring Living



## CONFERENCE SESSIONS

### Everyone is "SMART"

It's not how smart you are that matters, what really counts is how you are smart." Howard Gardner, Psychologist (1983) Dr. Marcy Thurmond Simmons developed the "SMART, BEAUTIFUL and CREATIVE (SBC)" presentation to act as a catalyst of change in education. SBC will equip educational stakeholders with insight on the importance of identifying and cultivating SMART TYPES in classrooms, homes, and community to build confident learners.

### Budget for Life™

This session will highlight aspects of Buckhead Christian Ministries Budget for Life™. This Financial Literacy Program is a 12-month virtual financial education program for working individuals and families. The program focuses on helping participants build the skills, knowledge, and habits to become financially stable. These skills help participants make better economic decisions in the future. Participants are required to attend virtual meetings for case management, financial coaching sessions, and financial education classes.

### Family Readiness: Lessons for College, Career and Life Success

This session will equip parents/guardians with information on funding resources, college preparation at all grade levels, career awareness options and workforce readiness skills for teens.

### #RACE2READ: Building A City That Reads

Participants will learn about the #RACE2Read campaign which invites students, parents and community members to join our efforts of reading and logging 10 million minutes in Beanstack. Participants will be given the chance to register their accounts on site, and take home a bookmark for their students.

### Pac Man Series 2.0: Empowering Father's to Be Their Very Best

Back by popular demand, the B.E.S.T. Academy Male Engagement Team will inspire and motivate fathers and father figures to be the best version of themselves through positive co-parenting, volunteerism and leadership.

### Know Your Rights

This will be a dialogue between the presenting attorney and session participants that reveals specific types of provisions in the standard lease (such as early termination and default).

The session will also discuss the landlord's duty to keep the premises in good repair and what duties are required to be covered will also be discussed.

### E.S.P. – Excellence in Single Parenting: Building Your Village

Single parent facilitators will seek to connect with traditional and non-traditional single parent headed households, (widow, never married, divorced, and surrogacy) through sharing of personal experiences, lessons learned, and exploring its social emotional impact on the parent and student.

### The Steady Path to Student Wellness–Telehealth for Physical and Mental Health Support

This session's presenter will use data to discuss why there is a need for additional physical and mental health supports for students. The Hazel Health Program will be introduced as well as the benefits of telehealth.

### The Cornerstone of Special Education

Lead by the district's parent mentor, this session will take a deep dive into the IEP process, IDEA-(Public Law 101-146) and its intent. Participants will gain an understanding of why the IEP is billed as the cornerstone to the Special Education process.

### We've Got You Covered– Transitional Services for Youth and Adults with Disabilities

Some families may be wondering, "Where do we go from here," once their student has aged out of a traditional learning environment. This session will offer insight and options for families who have developmentally disabled young adults who are transitioning to adulthood. Residential and employment services/resources will be shared.

### Transformation Happens at the Women's Academy

The Wellspring Women's Academy offers life-changing programming to young women who have experienced difficulty gaining living-wage employment due to life circumstances such as poverty, sexual abuse, and trafficking. The Academy offers three tracks – GED completion, career readiness and apprenticeship – designed to equip and empower women in Atlanta's communities for success!

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- Vendors
- Giveaways
- Childcare

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